

**BROOKLYN CITY.**

Deputies of Transylvania protesting against the union of Transylvania with Hungary.

1. The nationalities will work with all their power to stop the compromise of 1867, as its decisions are fatal to the national rights of the minorities.
2. The nationalities will support the opposition of the party in Croatia, which is against the compromise effected between Hungary and Croatia.
3. Municipalities are to be organized on the principle of nationality.
4. The conference protests against the insinuations that the Government is pursuing a policy which aims at the destruction of the Hungarian State.
5. The members sent by the non-Magyar races to the Diet will defend national party which has nothing in common with any of the Hungarian parties.

The conference decided that it would only bring forward a protest against the compromise of 1867, in accordance to the above programme, and for this purpose a Central Committee, consisting of Roumans and Serbs, has been chosen.

## SPAIN.

**Inaugural Speech of the General Rivera, President of the Spanish Cortes.**

The Cortes opened on the 19th ult. Señor Sanjurjo Cruz having left the chair, it was occupied by Señor Rivera, and as his speech is of some little importance as the first delivered in the Cortes of 1890, and besides, has the merit of brevity, it is here given.

**SEÑORES DIPUTADOS**—The sovereign Cortes Constituent of the Spanish nation are now convened and

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## JAMAICA.

**The Exodus from Cuba—Fears of Cholera—Improvement—Labor, Supply and Sugar Culture.**

KINGSTON, Feb. 17, 1899.

The cholera which has broken out in Santiago de Cuba has greatly alarmed the inhabitants of this island, and the remembrance of the last visitation of this frightful plague greatly intensifies the fear of its approach. The passengers of the French mail steamer Tampico and Spanish steamer Guantanamo from Santiago de Cuba (numbering in all one hundred persons), ponie stricken, have been placed under quarantine of observation, under which they will remain for the next eight days. The Governor has meanwhile directed their location at Port Augusta, and has desired that the barracks fortification should be fitted up as a

Mazzetto. There have been several meetings of the Board of Health since the arrival of information from Santiago de Cuba, and the masters of vessels have been instructed to require from the masters of vessels arriving in Jamaica bills of health from the British Consul. Ninety passengers were released yesterday afternoon from the *San Juan* and *San Pedro*, and the latter term of probation having arrived in the Spanish steamer *Barcelona* from Santiago.

Great satisfaction is manifested in the country by the recent appointment of the Financial Minister, Mr. Kushtown, in the Legislature that the colony is about to be relieved of an annual debt of some £100,000, and that the Government of the Colonies and Magdalen's Treasury have assented for the resuscitation of Jamaica's finances.

The government has directed the erection of a new jetty, and the place, which will be used as a public landing place for boats coming with passengers or for shipping supplies; £28,000 have been appropriated for the purpose. The Engineer, Colonel Mann, Royal Engineers, has been entrusted with its preparation.

The Government has chartered of three large ships having been chartered by Mr. Anderson there for the conveyance of Coolie immigrants to Jamaica for the estates of this island. Many throw up sugar cane cultivation, and the Government has, in consequence of government assurances that an abundant supply of labor will be brought from India, and that the Government will supply the necessary machinery are being landed from vessels arriving from England and the United States, and the planters are exhibiting great interest in the subject. Such earnestness has not been witnessed in Jamaica since the abolition of slavery.

#### Opinion of the London Press on the Opening

## UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

**The Floyd Acceptances Illegal and Not Binding upon the Government—The Agency of an Officer of the Government—The Inquiry Put upon the Purchaser of Government Paper—The Victims of the Acceptances.**

*Thomas W. Pierce vs. The United States, and two other cases.*—There were appeals from the Court of Claims, where the petitions of the claimants were filed. The other two claimants, represented in the actions are E. D. Morgan & Co., of New York, and the Dover Five Cent Savings Bank, of Maine. The facts involved have frequently been published in these columns. The claims are founded on acceptances of Secretary Floyd, made in 1860, for the purpose of furnishing supplies and transportation to the army of Utah, under command of Colonel Albert S. Johnston. The contractors were the firm of Rus-

The *Telegraph* rejoices in the evidence presented by the appearance of the House of Commons at the annals of the Liberal victory. The

Mr. Justice Miller now delivered the opinion of the court, affirming the judgment of the Courts of Claims, and holding that the United States is not bound to what is called commercial paper, if they are bound in any court for whose jurisdiction they submit by the same principle that governs the obligation of the government rests upon the act of an agent, the court will inquire into the authority of the agent to represent the government, and then upon the determination of the question of the agent's authority. In the case of such paper issued by individuals, when we are sure of the signature, we are sure of the authority, and we have no right to make such paper belong to all men. But the government is an abstract entity, which has no hand to write or mouth to speak, and has no signature which we can see. It speaks and acts only through agents or officers. These are many, and have various and diverse powers conferred to them. An individual may be authorized to sign bills and receipts, and to pay the notes and bills which he issues or accepts, appoint an agent to do these things for him. And this appointment may be a general power

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of course, or may be a limited authority to draw or accept under given circumstances, defined in the instruments which confer the power. But the agent, knowing that he acts only by virtue of a delegated power, must at his peril see that the paper on which he signs is not a bill, or that he is not signing the agent's name, and this applies to every person who takes the paper afterwards; for it is to be kept in mind that the signature of the agent is not a signature of the government negotiable paper cannot be used to establish the authority by which it was originally issued. The signature of the agent is not a signature of the transactions of individuals. They are equally applicable to those of the government. Whenever the agent is authorized to sign bills, it is for him to bind the government it must necessarily be by the signature of an officer of the government; and the purchase of such paper by the government must not authorize him at his peril see that the officer had authority to bind the government. The opinion then proceeds to examine the authority of the government to accept bills for its principal, and, after an elaborate inquiry, comes to the conclusion that the government is not authorized to accept, by its acceptance, either under the constitution, by any possible construction, or under the decision of the

The following are the sums and parties affected by this decision:—Thomas W. Pierce, \$30,000; Pierce & Co., \$30,000; The Merchants' Savings Institution, \$30,000; Five Cent Savings Bank, \$20,000; Langdon Bank, Dover, N. H., \$20,000; Colnech Bank of Dover, N. H., \$20,000; The Farmers' Savings Bank, Dover, N. H., \$20,000; Seaboard Bank, \$20,000; South Berwick Bank, Maine, \$15,000; Dunham, Sherman & Co., New York, \$15,000; The Farmers' Savings Bank, New York, \$15,000; S. D. Morgan & Co., New York, \$20,000; Boalens's Savings Institution, St. Louis, \$45,000; Southern Bank, \$45,000; The Farmers' Savings Bank, \$45,000; Franklin Savings Institution, St. Louis, \$45,000; Lucius Hopkins, New York, \$10,000; The Farmers' Savings Bank, New York, \$10,000; The Union Bank of Missouri, \$75,000; Kreiger & Co., trustees, St. Louis, \$15,000; Farmers' Bank, St. Louis, \$15,000; Farmers' Savings Institution, St. Louis, \$10,000. In all \$670,400.

Serb leaders had drawn in a conference held some time before among themselves. It is as follows:—

1. Solidarity of all non-Magyar nationalities or races, as they have a common interest.
2. The question of nationalities is to be solved in the sense of the proposal made in the last Diet by the Serbs and Roumans.
3. The conference adopts the declaration of the Roumanian

directors. The question was therefore laid over for

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eleven dollars; they were eight dollars and a half before the war; our company have no interest in

the meters; to test them before we send them to the consumer, and the inspector of the State also tests them before they are sent to the consumer. We invariably find those meters correct; we occasionally find the joints in one or so to become a little stiff, and that is for the benefit of the consumer. We supply the city with gas; we have a contract with them; before the war we used to charge twenty-eight dollars for these street lights, and we have a charge of thirty dollars or more; after the gas is made in our factor, we test it before going out to consumers; that is not such a test as is made by gas consumers everywhere. The light is not so bright as the light of the gas made before distribution; can describe the effect of such a cause; the result would be that the gas, being lighter than air, would go out first, and the light would be dimmer; it would immediately go out.

Examined by Mr. Bergen.—The strength of our gas as measured by our photometer is equal to the light

where the photometer is placed; none of the gas, the impurities present, is absorbed by the different pro-

inquiries especially are referred by the different groups to the same point; the photometrical examinations are made as often as twice a week; before the war we had been charging that since 1868 there was no immediate rise after the war; we used lime a little bit, oxide of iron; the increase of pressure on the gas may increase the debt on the consumer if the company wastes all the time. When there is pressure enough to give a person a proper light at additional pressure it costs him also a great deal more money; he pays out monthly the number of feet at thirty-five cent per hundred feet or \$3.50 per thousand, and two meters do not generally collect the bills; the inspector collects the index and makes his report when the meter is out of order the company is generally the sufferer; it costs the company from \$1.50 to \$2.00 a month; the company always required a deposit of one month's gas bill in advance so as to be secure against non-payment.

Mr. Zolliker, President of the Metropolitan Gas Light Company, was the next witness. His testimony was very favorable to the cause of the consumers. He said that the gas and water companies were mainly corroborative of the preceding witness. His company commenced on a capital of \$2,500,000, and that semi-annual dividends have been paid for many years.

ten and twelve per cent; the company has a surplus fund of some \$40,000 or \$50,000, which has accumu-

After paying off the declared dividends; the stock of the company is in \$100 shares, and can sell for \$100 a share. The company has 1,000 shares, and 100,000 shares and a half per 1,000 feet; before the war the price was two dollars and a half; the increase is owing to the fact that the gas is sold by the ton, and the price is charged in the district which is supplied from the works of his company, that is between Seventy-eight and Eighty dollars a ton, and the price is \$100 for each lamp, and \$200 per annum for each lamp; the company could not consistently charge less than \$100 per annum for each lamp, and the gas is distributed throughout the district is about two inches; the inspectors sometimes have to go to the district and examine the meter, but the consumption is pretty uniform throughout the year.

The company is owned by a prominent engineer and superintendent of the Metropolitan Gaslight Company, examined by Mr. Bergen, testified—that he has been in the district for many years, and has been in different parts of the United States; that he is familiar with all the minute of gas making; does not know of any other gas making in the district, and has had done so in some years past. The witness then described the use of the photometer. He said, "The gas is taken from the district, and is weighed; and then allowed to burn fifteen minutes and then weighed again, so as to determine the weight of the gas; and then the gas is taken from the photometrical test the gas is allowed to go into the street mains, and then is brought back to where

precise that two or three persons may arrive at the same conclusion: the test is made every day and a

careful record kept. No apparent difference is found in the quality of the gas made from the same kind of coal; low heat would make the same kind of gas. The gas made from the sulphur of hydrogen in combustion, in the purest form, would discolor gut ornaments or silver and would affect the health of persons breathing it. The gas made from the same kind of coal, but with a greater volume; the average illuminating power of the gas furnished by his company is sixteen or seventeen candles per cubic foot. The gas made from the same kind of coal, but with a greater volume; the average is about thirteen candles power; error from canal coal about twenty-two candles; from brickridge coal about twenty-five; the use of the same kind of coal, but with a greater volume; the average could not be secured from it to make the fires from 9,000 to 10,000 cubic feet of gas can be secured from a ton of coal; from 10,000 to 15,000 cubic feet of gas can be secured from a ton of coal; from 15,000 to 20,000 cubic feet of gas can be secured and about 15,000 cubic feet; bituminous coal runs down to 18,000 cubic feet; and sometimes less; the gas in the chimney at which it is burned, it is burned from five foot to six foot; argand burner, with a seven inch chimney, at sixteen candles power.

It is not known whether the proceedings Dr. Doreman was introduced and was directed by the committee to

make, in connection with Drs. Wurz and Chanler, an analysis of the gas furnished by the different

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Complimentary Dinner Tendered to Sir

### Action for Personal Injuries—An Appeal

### Case.

Before Judge Thompson.

**Bridge O'Brien vs. A. B. Capwell.**—This was an action brought to recover damages for an injury sustained by plaintiff by the giving way of the railing of the veranda while she was engaged in hanging the clothes in the back yard. Plaintiff was employed to do washing for a Mrs. Wade, who was defendant's tenant at the time the accident occurred. The case has already been tried, and the jury found a verdict of \$200 for the plaintiff. The case was then argued, and a new trial was ordered by the General Term. In charging the jury yesterday the Court said that the defendant had let the premises to Mrs. Wade and that she was in an unsafe condition at the time, and he knew it, or had his attention called to it and failed to remedy it. He was liable for the damages sustained by the plaintiff on the condition of the premises continuing from the time of the lease to Mrs. Wade to the day of the accident. The defendant is liable. Verdict for the plaintiff in \$350.

**COURT CALENDAR—THIS DAY.**

**CITY COURT.**—Nos. 25, 29, 30, 32, 35, 42, 43, 46 to 57 inclusive.

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**A REMARKABLE CASE.**—**IF** March two years ago a little girl, daughter of Mr. Coleman, a jeweller, residing at No. 423 Oxford street, while playing with a rubber ball in which a whistle was inserted, got the tube in her throat. Physicians were sent for and an emetic given, but the fixture, instead of coming out, gave her more trouble. She was then lodged, it is said, in the vicinity of the lungs, where it remained until a short time since, when, during a fit of coughing, choking and vomiting, the metal came up. It was two inches in length, and was found to be a whistle. The child has had a severe cough, and her parents were under the impression that it would ultimately cause her death. They were naturally overjoyed at the unexpected removal of the cause of the child's protracted illness.

**REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT FIRE MARSHAL.**—From the monthly report just submitted by the Assistant Fire Marshal of Brooklyn it appears that there were twenty-seven fires in this city during the month of February. The buildings in which these fires occurred were used for kindling wood factories,

two; liquor stores, one; private residences, four; pub-

to nails (board of education), one; stables, five; carpenter shops, one; blacksmith shops, one; tavern, one; steamboat, one. The town also had a bakery, graining and paint store, roofing establishment, marble work used and cotton factory. The causes of these fires, so far as could be determined, were as follows: The first was in the schoolhouse—Carelessness, 3; imperfection in flame, 1; malicious mischief, 1; gas explosion, 1; incendiary, 4; accidental, 11. The incendiary fires were in every case the result of malicious mischief and were perpetrated by urchins for the fun of witnessing the fire department in motion. The aggregate loss on property destroyed in February amounted to \$24,000, of which there was an insurance of \$11,500.

was received and entered upon the minutes from

Charles W. Wilets, notifying the Board of his resignation and returning thanks for the courtesies extended by that body to him during his connection as a member thereof. The report of the Teachers' Committee on promotions, resignations and appointments was received and adopted. The resolution presented at the previous meeting to increase the salary of the principal of public school No. 1 was adopted unanimously. Mr. Waterbury offered a preamble and resolution tendering the thanks of the Board to Mrs. Mary A. Dennison, who is about to retire from the position of principal of school No. 1, after a long and useful career. Mrs. Dennison has for the past forty years, Mr. Field urged that she be retained in some capacity suitable for her. The subject was finally referred to a committee to report. The report of the committee was read and adopted. Public school, to be designated as No. 31, in Myron street, for the relief of Nos. 4 and 12, received its charter for the education of the pupils admitted at the next meeting, and the plans submitted for its work. Objection was made by Mr. Knodds to the report, on the ground that this building would be a detriment to the other buildings in the neighborhood, and that the expense of the primary schools, which were much more needed in that district, would be increased. Mr. Knodds stated that the committee remarked that he felt that public sentiment was being educated, and that the State would be benefited by the State is to afford the means for rudimentary instruction, and as the want for primary accommodations in our schools was very great he hoped that the Board would not be deterred from the plan. He held that No. 1, which has been transformed into a primary, had been a success. This was the opinion regarding the subject, but an experiment, Mr. W. L. Gillett, in advocacy of the adoption of the report of the committee, as one which would meet the primary wants of that district. Mr. Northrup stated that he was not in favor of the plan, but asserted that it would not cost as much as No. 1. Another member of the Board stated that the erection of No. 31 would relieve Nos. 4 and 12, and

would afford 2,175 additional sittings for primary children. The question as to the

adoption of the report, after considerable debate on a motion to refer to a special committee, which latter did not prevail was put and carried by a vote of 10 to 4. The report was then read negative. The committee to whom was referred the petition of the colored people in relation to public school No. 2, who regarded the appointment of a white teacher as an insult to the colored primary department of that school as objectionable, reported in favor of employing competent teachers, whether the procurement of such services may be accomplished by the removal of the teacher the dismissal of the white children who are now in attendance as well as the employment of colored teachers, to be recognized in the attendance of children, the schools respectively designated for their use. This question of distinction of color gave rise to considerable discussion, and the report was finally adopted.

Mr. Manger, from the Committee on School Sites, reported in favor of the purchase of eight lots of land, in the city of St. Louis, for the purpose of this question contains 17,000 superficial feet on Mayfield street, near Broadway, on the limits of district No. 18, in the city of St. Louis. The board shortly after will purchase for this purpose for the